

Message Text

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63

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 AGR-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 INR-07

LAB-04 NSAE-00 SP-02 STR-04 TRSE-00 CIEP-01 FRB-03

OMB-01 /041 W

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R 281555Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4599

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SAN JOSE 3687

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EPAP, ETRD, CS

SUBJECT: NICARAGUA CATTLE EXPORTS TO COSTA RICA

REF: MANAGUA 3432

1. RELIABLE SOURCE IN THE MEAT PACKING INDUSTRY ACKNOWLEDGED THAT LARGER THAN USUAL NUMEBERS OF YEARLING STEERS HAVE ILLEGALLY ENTERED COSTA RICA THIS YEAR. SOURCE TOLD US THAT IN NORMAL YEARS ONE TO TWO THOUSAND ANIMALS ENTER FROM NICARAGUA; HOWEVER, THIS YEAR AN ESTIMATED FIVE TO SIX THOUSAND HAVE ENTERED. THESE ANIMALS ENTERED COSTA RICA VIA THE PANAM HIGHWAY UNDER THE PRETEXT THAT THEY WERE BEING SHIPPED TO THE CARDENAS REGION OF NICARAGUA VIA COSTA RICA; HOWEVER, THEY HAVE REMAINED HERE WHERE THEY WILL BE FATTENED ON PASTURE FOR SLAUGHTER 24 MONTHS FROM NOW. SAME SOURCE SAID THAT THE CONTRABAND IMPORTS ARE MADE BY ONE PACKER WHO HAS A VERTICALLY INTEGRATED OPERATION. SOURCE STATED THAT MORE THAN ADQUATE SUPPLIES OF YEARLING STEERS ARE AVAILABLE ON

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LOCAL MARKET AND THAT IMPORTS FROM NICARAGUA FURTHER

DEPRESSED PRICE FOR LOCAL ANIMALS.

2. EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT NICARAGUA SOURCE WHO GAVE
EXPORT FIGURE AT 80,000 HEAD OF CATTLE MUST HAVE MADE
ERROR IN NUMBERS. THAT FIGURE IS EQUAL TO FIFTY
PERCENT OF THE STEERS AVAILABLE IN COSTA RICA FOR
EXPORT SLAUGHTER THIS YEAR. WITHOUT ANY IMPORT OF
CATTLE, COSTA RICA WILL HAVE A QUANTITY OF ABOUT
10-13 MILPYON POUNDS OF MEAT FOR EXPORT ABOVE THE VRL.
WITH 115,000 HEAD OF LOCAL CATTLE AVAILABLE FOR SLAUGHTER
THIS YEAR FOR DOMESTIC CONSUMPTION,/45#343 28)) ?3 ,9
#945-&3 9* .3-5 9, 5#3)9:-) .-4(35 AND THEREFORE NO
NEED TO IMPORT CATTLE.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CATTLE, AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS, CONTRABAND
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976SANJO03687
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760292-0426
From: SAN JOSE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760713/aaaaalez.tel
Line Count: 75
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 MANAGUA 3432
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15 JUL 2004 by coburnhl>; APPROVED <27 OCT 2004 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NICARAGUA CATTLE EXPORTS TO COSTA RICA
TAGS: EPAP, ETRD, CS
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006